



Public Information

Contact: Kimberly Evans
555 Wright Way
Carson City, Nevada 89711
Office: (775) 684-4554
Cell: (775) 721-4479
Email: kevans@dps.state.nv.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
State Fire Marshal

October 24, 2006

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

State Fire Marshal Reminder: Change the Clock and Change Smoke Alarm Battery *Replace smoke alarms older than ten years!*

Carson City, NV~Daylight savings time ends October 29, 2006. As we turn our clocks back one hour this weekend, State Fire Marshal Jim Wright of Nevada's Department of Public Safety reminds citizens to also check their smoke alarms, "It's important to make sure the smoke alarm is working properly and install a fresh battery. Also, if your smoke alarm is ten years old, replace it with a new one. If you don't know how old your alarm is, replace it. Checking smoke alarms and replacing old ones can mean the difference between life and death."

Nearly 75% of fatal fires occur in structures and 94% are in people's homes. **Properly working smoke alarms save lives.** Research shows that a *working* smoke alarm in the home reduces your chances of dying in a fire by nearly half. Studies by the Center for Disease Control prove that \$1 spent on smoke alarms can save \$69 in fire-related costs. Consider installing 10-year lithium battery-powered smoke alarms—the initial investment pays off because batteries don't need to be replaced.

In addition, every family should have an escape plan and practice it so that each family member understands what to do in case of a fire. A family drill can actually be fun for kids, and the lesson that is reinforced can save their lives. The DPS Fire Marshal Division joins Nevada's fire fighters in reminding everyone: **Before you go to bed Saturday night, set your clock back one hour and replace the battery in every smoke alarm in your house. Also replace every smoke alarm that is ten years old.**

For more tips: www.fire.state.nv.us

###